

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A ceramic catalyst body comprising a loaded primary catalyst component and a co-catalyst component onto a ceramic support that enables catalyst components to be loaded directly onto the surface of a base ceramic; wherein, the base ceramic has a structure having a large number of pores, and the primary catalyst component and co-catalyst component are loaded directly onto the base ceramic surface that includes the inner surfaces of these pores, and wherein 50% by weight or more of the co-catalyst component is loaded onto the inner surfaces of the pores, the average particle diameter of the co-catalyst component is 1/3 or less the average pore diameter of the base ceramic, and the thickness of the layer of the co-catalyst component loaded onto the outer surface of the ceramic support is 20 μm or less.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The ceramic catalyst body according to claim 1, wherein 70% by weight or more of the co-catalyst component is loaded onto the inner surfaces of the pores.

4. (Original) The ceramic catalyst body according to claim 1, wherein the primary catalyst component and the co-catalyst component are loaded directly onto at least the inner surfaces of those pores that open to the outer surface of the ceramic support.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) The ceramic catalyst body according to claim 1, wherein the co-catalyst component contains an oxygen occluding component, said oxygen occluding component is at least one member selected from the group consisting of ceria, ceria-zirconia

solid solution and a ceria-zirconia solid solution containing a transition metal element.

8. (Original) The ceramic catalyst body according to claim 1, wherein, in the ceramic support, at least one or more elements that compose the base ceramic is substituted with an element other than a composite element, and the ceramic support enables the catalyst components to be loaded directly onto this substitution element.

9. (Original) The ceramic catalyst body according to claim 8, wherein the catalyst components are loaded onto the substitution element by chemical bonding.

10. (Previously Presented) The ceramic catalyst body according to claim 8, wherein the substitution element is at least one or more element that has a d orbital or f orbital in its electron orbitals.

11. (Previously Presented) The ceramic catalyst body according to claim 1, wherein the base ceramic contains, as its main component, a ceramic material selected from the group consisting of cordierite, alumina, spinel, mullite, aluminum titanate, zirconium phosphate, silicon carbide, zeolite, perovskite and silica-alumina.

12. (Original) The ceramic catalyst body according to claim 1, wherein the ceramic support has a large number of fine pores that allow a catalyst to be loaded directly onto the surface of a base ceramic, and enables the catalyst components to be loaded directly into the fine pores.

13. (Previously Presented) A ceramic catalyst body according to claim 12, wherein the fine pores are composed of at least one type of defects in the ceramic crystal lattice, microcracks in the ceramic surface, and deficiencies of an element that composes the ceramic.

14. (Original) The ceramic catalyst body according to claim 13, wherein the width of the microcracks is 100 nm or less.

15. (Original) The ceramic catalyst body according to claim 13, wherein the fine pores have a diameter or width 1000 times or less the diameter of the catalyst ions that are loaded, and the number of the fine pores is $1 \times 10^{11}/L$ or more.

16. (Previously Presented) The ceramic catalyst body according to claim 13, wherein the base ceramic contains cordierite, as its main component, and the fine pores are composed of defects formed by substituting a portion of the composite elements of the cordierite with a metal element having a different valency.

17. (Original) The ceramic catalyst body according to claim 16, wherein the defects are composed of at least one type of oxygen vacancy and lattice defect, and $4 \times 10^{-6}\%$ or more of cordierite crystals having one or more of these defects are contained in the unit crystal lattice of the cordierite.

18. (Previously Presented) The ceramic catalyst body according to claim 1, wherein the ceramic support is at least one member selected from the group consisting of honeycomb, pellets, powder, foam, fibers, and hollow fibers.